

Amendment to the Drawings

Please delete the original drawing sheet containing the figures identified as Figs. 2A and 2B and substitute the enclosed replacement drawing sheet wherein those figures are identified as Figs. 2 and 2A.

The two figures labeled as Fig. 2A and Fig. 2B are referred to in the specification (paragraphs [0040], [0053], [0103] and [0115]) as Figs. 2 and 2A. The enclosed replacement drawing is provided to correct this discrepancy.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The undersigned expresses his appreciation to the Examiner for his time and comments at the interview of September 27, 2005.

Amendments to the Title, Abstract, and Figures

As requested by the Examiner in the Action of August 3, 2005, a more descriptive title and a new abstract are provided. A replacement drawing sheet is provided to correct a discrepancy between the figure numbers in the original drawing and the references to those figures in the specification.

Double Patenting

Claims 1-10 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting over claims 1, 5 and 7 of Keane et al, (U.S. Patent 6,650,433).

It is believed that pending claims 1-10 are patentably distinct from the claims of Keane. Attached Exhibits 1 and 2 contain side-by-side comparisons of Keane independent claim 1 and pending independent claims 1 and 6 of the current application. (Bolding has been added in the Exhibits to highlight some claim differences.)

The Keane claims are directed to methods for managing individual print jobs from multiple customers and recite that the aggregate print job has a plurality of individual print jobs from different customers positioned in each of its two dimensions. These limitations are not present in independent claims 1 and 6 of the pending application.

Pending independent claim 1, on the other hand, recites a method for creating an aggregate print job that includes the steps of receiving individual print

jobs with an associated parameter identifying the size of the printed product and defining an aggregate print job have pre-defined individual print job locations, each location having a predetermined size. These limitations of claim 1 are not present in Keane.

Pending independent claim 6 recites another method for creating an aggregate print job wherein at least some of the product sizes of the individual print jobs are different and wherein the defined aggregate print job has no predetermined individual print job locations. These limitations are also not present in Keane.

35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 103 Rejections

Claims 1-4 and 6-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Katayana et al (Patent 6,424,752). Claims 5 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katayana.

Katayama is directed at a system for merging a plurality of related digital images having overlapping segments to create a larger panoramic synthesized digital image (see, for example, the Abstract; col. 1, lines 5-27; col. 2, lines 38-44; Figs. 18 and 26 of Katayama). For example, Fig. 9A of Katayama depicts two images, such as digital photographs taken from slightly different camera positions, that each contain the pentagon shape. In this case, the right side of image 301 “overlaps” the left side of image 302. The two images are merged to create a single integrated synthesized image, such as depicted in Fig. 17. Katayama uses the common content elements in the images to determine how to merge the images. Multiple images can be combined, both horizontally and vertically, to create a single integrated image, as shown in Fig. 18 or Figs. 25-26.

Figures in Katayama showing arrangements of individual component images, such as Fig. 4, Fig. 11, Fig 25, and Fig. 30-32 are merely conceptual depictions or representations of user display screens showing component images

prior to synthesis into a composite image. (For example, Figs. 34 and 36 show images 1404a and 1404b before and after synthesis.) Katayama does not disclose any method of aggregating individual print jobs for printing.

By contrast, as indicated in the preambles of pending independent claims 1 and 6, Applicants' claims are directed to methods for creating an aggregate print job intended to be printed and cut to create a plurality of individual print jobs. To illustrate a possible aggregate print job, Applicants' Fig. 2, discussed in the specification at [0053], depicts an aggregate print job 52 that has 126 print job locations for business card print jobs, such as 50. Fig. 2A, discussed at [0103], depicts another illustrative aggregate print job, in this case containing a combination of business card print job locations 50, postcard print job locations 53, and invitation print job locations 55. Each type of location has a different size corresponding to the size of the associated printed product. After the aggregate print job has been printed in the desired quantity, the printed aggregate print job is cut along the borders of the individual print jobs to separate the various individual print jobs for individual packaging and shipping according to the associated ordering information, as discussed at [0115]-[0119].

In light of the above comments, reconsideration and withdrawal of the double patenting rejection and the 35 U.S.C. 102(e) and 103 rejections based on Katayama is respectfully requested.

Date: November 2, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

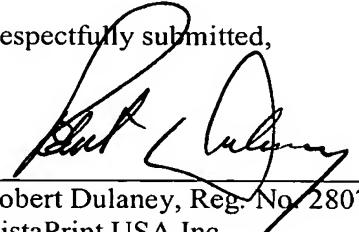

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EXHIBIT 1

6,650,433 – Claim 1

10/608,378 - Claim 1

A method for managing individual print jobs from multiple customers ,	A computer-implemented method for creating an aggregate print job intended to be printed and cut to create a plurality of individual printed products,
the method comprising: receiving individual print jobs electronically	the method comprising: receiving individual print jobs, each individual print job having an associated printing parameter identifying the size of printed product to be created from that individual print job,
	defining a two-dimensional aggregate print job, the aggregate print job having a plurality of pre-defined individual print job locations arranged in each of its two dimensions, each print job location having a predetermined size, and
aggregating at least some of the individual print jobs to create one or more larger aggregate print jobs, each of the aggregate print jobs comprising individual print jobs arranged in a two-dimensional layout having a plurality of individual print jobs from different customers positioned in each of its two dimensions, whereby individual print jobs from different customers will be printed simultaneously when the aggregate print job is printed, and	assigning at least some of the received individual print jobs to individual print job locations in the aggregate print job such that the size of the product to be printed from the individual print job corresponds to the size of the assigned location in the aggregate print job.
electronically transmitting one or more aggregate print jobs to one or more printers for printing, the one or more printers being configured to print copies of the aggregate print jobs transmitted to it.	

EXHIBIT 2

6,650,433 – Claim 1

10/608,378 - Claim 6

<p>A method for managing individual print jobs from multiple customers,</p>	<p>A computer-implemented method for creating an aggregate print job intended to be printed and cut to create a plurality of individual printed products,</p>
<p>the method comprising:</p> <p>receiving individual print jobs electronically</p>	<p>the method comprising:</p> <p>a) receiving individual print jobs, each individual print job having an associated printing parameter identifying the size of the product to be created from that individual print job, at least some of the product sizes being different</p>
	<p>b) defining a two-dimensional aggregate print job having no-pre-determined individual print job locations, the aggregate print job being of a sufficient size to accommodate a plurality of individual print jobs in each of its two dimensions,</p>
<p>aggregating at least some of the individual print jobs to create one or more larger aggregate print jobs, each of the aggregate print jobs comprising individual print jobs arranged in a two-dimensional layout having a plurality of individual print jobs from different customers positioned in each of its two dimensions, whereby individual print jobs from different customers will be printed simultaneously when the aggregate print job is printed, and</p>	<p>c) selecting a first individual print job for placement in the aggregate print job,</p> <p>d) placing the individual print job at a location in the aggregate print job,</p> <p>e) selecting another individual print job for placement in the aggregate print job,</p> <p>f) placing the another individual print job in the aggregate print job in an available location not occupied by any other individual print job, and</p> <p>g) repeating steps e) and f) until the aggregate print job filling process is completed.</p>
<p>electronically transmitting one or more aggregate print jobs to one or more printers for printing, the one or more printers being configured to print copies of the aggregate print jobs transmitted to it.</p>	